

Message Text

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41

ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 R

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COM/BIC/OED/MEPD/JMSANDS

STATE/AF/E/RILLING(INFO COPY)

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R 201928Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

UNCLAS STATE 041300

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, SU

SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT: GRAIN STORAGE

REF: KHARTOUM 422

1. MEPD CONTACTED BUTLER MANUFACTURING TO OFFER ASSISTANCE AS REQUESTED REFTTEL ONLY TO LEARN THAT ESPINDOLA HAD ALREADY LEFT FOR KUWAIT AND WILL NOT RETURN TO KANSAS CITY UNTIL MARCH.

2. LARRY PRAEGER OF BUTLER CONCERNED ABOUT EMBASSY'S STATEMENT THAT FORMAL PROPOSAL NEEDED ASAP. BUTLER HAS NO SPECIFICATIONS, NO BID DATE, AND NO IDEA TO WHOM THE BID SHOULD BE MADE. HAS THIS INFO BEEN SENT IN? PLEASE REPEAT IF SO. OR DOES POST MEAN THAT IN ORDER TO FORESTALL SUDANESE AWARD OF THIS TURNKEY PROJECT TO INTER-G, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL SOON? MEPD NOTIFIED ENGINEERING FIRMS OF THIS PROJECT IN DECEMBER UPON RECEIPT OF KHARTOUM 2730 BUT TURNED UP NO INTEREST. IF ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL MUST BE TURNKEY, THE OUTLOOK APPEARS BLEAK BUT AN ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE. IF BUTLER CAN PROPOSE ITS EQUIPMENT ONLY, THEN PLEASE INDICATE HOW TO GO ABOUT THIS.

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3. IF ESPINDOLA ALREADY KNOWS ALL THIS AND THE CONFUSION
IS CAUSED BY HIS ABSENCE FROM THE SCENE JUST TELL US AND
WE WILL TELL PRAEGER TO WAIT UNTIL ESPINDOLA'S RETURN IN
EARLY MARCH. INGERSOLL

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